

SIXTH SUNDAY OF

*Easter*

MAY 17, 2020

Copyright © J.S. Paluch Co. Inc. - Photos: © surachat/Adobe Stock  
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, CCD.

Jesus said, "If you love me  
you will keep my commandments."

John 14:15

# St. Rita Catholic Parish

*A Faith Community Since 1908*

**MAY 17, 2020**

**6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

#### **MASS TIMES**

**SUNDAYS:** Sat. 5:30 pm (Vigil), 7:30 am, 10 am & 12 noon

**WEEKDAYS:** Mon., Tues., Fri, and Sat. 8 am  
(Wed. & Thurs. 8 am Communion Service)

**HOLY DAYS:** (eve of) 5:30 pm; (day of) 8 am & 6:30 pm

#### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

(Confession) Saturdays 4 – 5 pm or by appointment

#### **DEVOTIONS**

Our Lady of Perpetual Help: Saturday 7:50 am

#### **ADORATION**

First Friday 8:30 am – 5 pm, Rectory Oratory

**Rev. Thomas Baker — Pastor**

**Deacon Manuel Valencia • Deacon Chuck McDaniels**

318 North Baldwin Avenue, Sierra Madre

Mailing Address: 50 East Alegria Avenue, Sierra Madre, CA 91024

Phone: (626) 355-1292 • FAX: (626) 355-2290 • [www.st-rita.org](http://www.st-rita.org)

## PASTORAL STAFF

**Rev. Thomas Baker, Pastor**  
 rtombaker@st-rita.org • 355-1292

**Deacon Manuel & Chela Valencia, Permanent Deacon Couple**  
 deaconmanuelvalencia@gmail.com • 355-1292

**Deacon Chuck & Linda McDaniels, Permanent Deacon Couple**  
 deaconchuck@st-rita.org • 355-1292

**Fr. Chris Thiel, OFM Cap., Weekend Supply Priest**

## ADMINISTRATIVE &amp; MINISTRY STAFF

**Director of Administration** 355-1292 x222  
 Charlene Henkelmann charlenc@st-rita.org

**Director of Liturgy & Music** 355-1292 x231  
 Paul Puccinelli mm@st-rita.org

**Facilities Manager** 355-1292 x232  
 Justin Smith justin@st-rita.org

**Receptionists** reception@st-rita.org

**Registration Coordinator** 355-1292 x230  
 Sheila Palazzolo

**Database Administrator** 355-1292 x226  
 Jennifer Bowen rc@st-rita.org

**Pastoral Council**  
 Al Francia pastoral@st-rita.org

**Archivist** 355-1292 x233  
 Marilyn McKernan marilyn@st-rita.org

**Webmaster** 355-1292  
 Ralph Seymour seymour@seymourmedia.com

**Bulletin Submissions** 355-1292 x226  
 Jennifer Bowen bulletin@st-rita.org

## EDUCATION &amp; FAITH FORMATION

**St. Rita School Principal** 355-6114  
 Patty Hager

**St. Rita School Secretary** 355-6114 x102  
 Sara Landis landis@st-ritaschool.org

**Director of Faith Formation** 355-1292 x223  
 Theresa Costanzo dff@st-rita.org

**Coordinator of Confirmation & Youth Ministry** 355-1292 x259  
 Raquel Hernandez ymcoordinator@st-rita.org

**Coordinator of Elementary Faith Formation** 355-1292 x228  
 Louellen Tschopp eff@st-rita.org

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)** 355-1292  
 Dcn. Manuel Valencia / Susan Blakeslee / rcia@st-rita.org  
 Gary Fidone

## PARISH LIFE &amp; MINISTRY

**Altar Servers**  
 Kathy Ganino & Bill Cosso altarservers@st-rita.org

**Bereavement Ministry**  
 Sheila Palazzolo bereavement@st-rita.org

**Catholic Bible Study**  
 Jim & Alice Cobbin biblestudy@st-rita.org

**Church Environment**  
 Parish Offices environment@st-rita.org

**Eucharistic Adoration**  
 Kathy Ganino eucharistic.adoration@st-rita.org

**Eucharistic Outreach**  
 Chuck McDaniels eucharistic.outreach@st-rita.org

**Finance Council**  
 Bill Sullivan finance@st-rita.org

**Holy Housekeepers**  
 Patty Sullivan holy.house@st-rita.org

**Immaculate Heart of Mary Prayer Group**  
 Susan Day mary.prayer@st-rita.org

**Knights of Columbus, Council 5137**  
 Stan Pinta kofc@st-rita.org

**Knit & Crochet Ministry**  
 Ana Ptasinski & Ann Wolf knitcrochet@st-rita.org

**Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers**  
 David & Jill Muhs em@st-rita.org

**Prayer Shawl & Lap Blanket Ministry**  
 Mary Taillac & Marilyn Delgatto shawl.blanket@st-rita.org

**Porters**  
 Sheila Palazzolo porters@st-rita.org

**Sacristan Coordinator**  
 David Muhs em@st-rita.org

**St. Rita Filipino American Group**  
 Noel Wychico filipino.amer@st-rita.org

**St. Rita Guild**  
 Lenore Crilly guild@st-rita.org

**St. Rita Men's Club**  
 Allen Boyle mens.club@st-rita.org

**Ushers & Greeters**  
 Dave Loera ushers@st-rita.org

**Volunteer Coordinator**  
 Sheila Palazzolo volunteer@st-rita.org

## SACRAMENTS

**Baptisms**

First Sunday of the month after the Noon Mass. Registration and Catechesis are prerequisites. Please contact the Parish Office.

**Marriages**

Contact the Parish Office upon engagement; at least six months is needed for preparation of this joyous sacrament!

**Reconciliation and First Eucharist**

Preparation for children who have attained the age of reason (usually during 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) is arranged either through the Religious Education Program or St. Rita Elementary School.

**Confirmation**

A two-year program for freshman/sophomore age teens. Please apply through the Youth Ministry Program.

**Communion for the Sick and Homebound**

St. Rita Eucharistic Ministers provide Communion home visits. Contact the Parish Office.

**Anointing of the Sick and Funeral Liturgies**

Please notify us for the Anointing of the Sick, the sacrament intended for the seriously ill or dying which brings Our Lord's special presence and companionship in serious time of need. If someone should die without anointing, remember that the desire to receive is sufficient.

If your loved one has passed, we will assist in making arrangements with your chosen funeral director; refer you to our Bereavement Ministry and Music Ministry; and offer you helpful guidelines that will aid in the selection of readings for a Mass or Memorial Service. We know this can be a tough time and we want you to know that your parish is here for you. Please understand we only have one resident priest; sometimes arrangements for another priest may be needed.



## *Sanctify Christ as Lord in Your Hearts*

Dear Parishioners and Visitors:

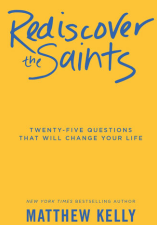
In the Gospel today Jesus says: “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” One of the commandments Jesus gave to his disciples before his ascension into heaven was to go and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The missionary work of the church is to carry the message of Jesus to all parts of the world. While it is vital that we support the work of the foreign missions, it is also vital that we have a missionary spirit. All of us are commanded by Jesus to teach all nations. If we love Jesus we will keep this commandment. We must participate in the missionary work of the church by sharing our faith right here in Sierra Madre.

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> reading this weekend begins with the words: “Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts” (1 Peter 3:15). These are very special words to me as my 31<sup>th</sup> anniversary of priestly ordination approaches (actual date is June 10). Even before I became a priest, I desired to know Jesus Christ and to have His words, and His way dominate my choices and life style. As a priest these 31 years I have tried to stay close to Jesus, to grow in holiness and to lead others to Him. I have been called to minister in the inner city and in the desert, to the shut-in and the incarcerated, to the old and to the young. While I have never been completely successful in what I do, I am reminded of the words of Mother Teresa who said: “We are called to be faithful not successful.” While I pray for both, faithfulness is more important. Please pray for me that I can continue to serve God and His people faithfully.

I am grateful to God that I have persevered through these 31 years as a priest. They have been years of great growth, tremendous blessing and outstanding ministry. I have been privileged to journey with many wonderful people from the various parishes where I have served, as well as devoted priests. May we all be faithful to Jesus commandments, have a missionary spirit and always “Sanctify Christ as Lord in our Heart.” As we move toward giving our lives entirely over to Jesus, let us pray for more vocations and for one another. Peace.

—Fr. Tom

### REFLECTION QUESTION



Each week I will include a reflection question based on a chapter from the Matthew Kelly book: “Rediscover the Saints.” Please use this question for reflection and discussion with family, friends and parishioners. **Recall someone, who, like St. Nicholas, interceded on your behalf and helped you through a challenging time. Share that story and the person who made Santa alive.**



*Keep these intentions in your heart as you make your spiritual communion while Mass restrictions are in place.*

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, MAY 16

8:00 AM Cliff & Ken Hancuff RIP  
5:30 PM Mary Irene Newell RIP

### SUNDAY, MAY 17

7:30 AM Steven Riggio, RIP  
10:00 AM Patricia Balderas RIP  
12 NOON For all parishioners

### MONDAY, MAY 18

8:00 AM Mary Buzanowski RIP

### TUESDAY, MAY 19

8:00 AM Belinda Ann McClosky INT

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

8:00 AM Communion Service

### THURSDAY, MAY 21

8:00 AM Communion Service

### FRIDAY, MAY 22

8:00 AM St. Rita School INT  
7:00 PM For all parishioners

### SATURDAY, MAY 23

8:00 AM Molly Lynch RIP  
5:30 PM Jennifer Bowen INT

### SUNDAY, MAY 24

7:30 AM Valerie Chavarria RIP  
10:00 AM For all parishioners  
12 NOON Nicholas Clemente RIP

## FEAST DAYS & OBSERVANCES

**Monday:** St. John I  
**Wednesday:** St. Bernardine of Siena  
**Thursday:** St. Christopher Magallanes & Companions  
**Friday:** St. Rita of Cascia

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — The people of Samaria accepted the word of God preached by Philip; they received the Holy Spirit (*Acts 8:5-8, 14-17*).

**Psalm** — Let all the earth cry out to God with joy (*Psalms 66*).

**Second Reading** — Act with gentleness and reverence toward all, so that when you are maligned those who defame you will be the ones put to shame (*1 Peter 3:15-18*).

**Gospel** — I will not leave you orphans, but will come to you (*John 14:15-21*).

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO REQUEST OUR PRAYERS:



Sheri & Eva Bermejo, Mona Anich, Phil Scalzo, Raul Lascano, Joe Hernandez, Michael Joseph Parada, Joan Juenemann, Charles Humphrey, Mark Stone, Joseph & Josephine Gruppie, Eleanor Raleigh, Margaux Viera, Marsha Joy, Kellie Loera, Charles Baker, Gilbert Gonzalez, Genise Tully, Mary Kiss, Lisa Bowman, Susan Devin, Sawtell John, Inez Ybarra, Francesca DiFranco, Charlotte Meyer, Richard Forcione, Mary Kathryn Genzlinger, Toni Baiunco, Jacquie Marshall Martin, Teresa D'Agostaro, Carmen Ruiz, Maria Blust, Daisy Walters, Salvatore Termini, Mary Rodriguez, Pete & Daisy Olson, Margaret Fala, Hannah Waken, Clare Greteman, Lalo Arriaga, Jim Crilly, Trini Marti, Joann Little, Luz Arriaga, Doug Peterson, Sandra Osborne, Evelyn Tres, Gerald Drea, Toni Navarro, Tonyja Blakeslee, Edith Olah, Fred Mycroft, Joseph Moore.



Do you no longer need your donation envelopes because you have recently begun donating online? Let us know by sending a note to [rc@st-rita.org](mailto:rc@st-rita.org).

Would you like to begin donating online? It's easy and convenient. Follow these simple steps:

1. Visit our parish website at [www.st-rita.org](http://www.st-rita.org).
2. Scroll down and find the "Online Giving" button.
3. Fill out the information required.
4. We STRONGLY recommend creating a profile; that will enable you to update your account easily.

*Thank you for your faithful generosity!*

## Act of Spiritual Communion

It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion is an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and lovingly embrace him at a time or in circumstances when one cannot receive Him in sacramental Communion. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

### Prayer for Spiritual Communion

**My Jesus, I believe you are really here in the blessed sacrament. I love you more than anything in the world, and I hunger to receive you.**

**But since I cannot receive communion at this moment, feed my soul at least spiritually.**

**I unite myself to you now as I do when I actually receive you. Amen.**

—*St. Alphonsus Liguori*

## Online Bible Study

Jim and Alice Cobbin have posted some episodes of Catholic Bible Study on YouTube. Join with them in examining the Johannine and Petrine epistles. You can view their channel by visiting this link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-k5eZwGvFi9ctNr1fv9FYg> or by searching YouTube for "Jim & Alice Bible Study".



## ST. RITA OF CASCIA (1381-1457)

*Feast Day May 22*

“The worldwide devotion to St. Rita is symbolized by the rose. It is to be hoped that the life of everyone devoted to her will be like the rose picked in the garden of Roccaporena the winter before the saint’s death.

That is, let it be a life sustained by passionate love for the Lord Jesus; a life capable of responding to suffering and to thorns with forgiveness and the total gift of self, in order to spread everywhere the good odor of Christ (c.f. Cor 2:15) through a consistently-lived proclamation of the Gospel. Rita offers her rose to each of you: in receiving it spiritually, strive to live as witnesses to a hope that never disappoints and as missionaries of a life that conquers death.”

—*St. Pope John Paul II*

### LIVESTREAM FEAST DAY MASS TIMES

[www.facebook.com/SaintRitaSM](http://www.facebook.com/SaintRitaSM)

8:00 a.m. School Mass (*English*)

7:00 p.m. Mass (*English & Armenian*)